

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today voted to boost America's clean energy economy by providing rebates to homeowners who install energy-saving products and reduce energy consumption in their homes. If enacted, the Home Star Jobs Bill would create an estimated 170,000 jobs, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and save American families \$9 billion over 10 years.

"Our long-term economic recovery depends on smart, targeted investments in America's emerging green economy," said Rep. Sanchez. "I'm proud to support this jobs bill, which will create incentives for consumers who renovate their homes to become more energy-efficient. More energy efficient homes means more manufacturing and construction jobs, more money in the pockets of local families, and more energy independence from other countries. It's a win for our families and a win for our workers."

The bill features two levels of rebates that will help an estimated 3 million American homeowners. The Silver Star program would provide up-front rebates of up to \$3,000 for the installation of proven energy-saving technologies, such as insulation, duct sealing, window and door improvements, air sealing, and advanced water heaters. The Gold Star program rewards homeowners with up to \$8,000 for conducting a comprehensive energy audit and substantially reducing their energy use at home.

This bill would boost our construction and manufacturing industries in the short term by creating jobs immediately. More than 90% of the materials and products used in eligible measures are made in the U.S. In the long run, it will help rebuild the foundation of our economy by encouraging American innovation and entrepreneurship in the growing clean energy industry.

This legislation builds on the 111th Congress' previous accomplishments offering tax credits for energy-efficient home improvements in the Recovery Act. Through the end of 2010, homeowners can receive a tax credit for 30 percent of the cost of these improvements, up to \$1,500. More information is available at <http://www.energysavers.gov/financial>

The Home Star Energy Retrofit Act has received bipartisan support, and has been endorsed by a broad range of business, labor, environmental, and consumer groups, including the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of

Home Builders.